

0500  
JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO SEP 25 2001



3600

Attorney Docket: 2217/50147  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5

3643

Applicant: GERVASIO MERCURI

Serial No.: 09/869,094

Group Art Unit:

Filed: JUNE 25, 2001

Examiner:

Title: MEAT PRODUCT CASING HAVING A MAXIMUM EXTENSIBLE  
DIAMETER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

RECEIVED

OCT 20 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

English abstracts of the Australian Patent documents are submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such foreign language documents is required.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action

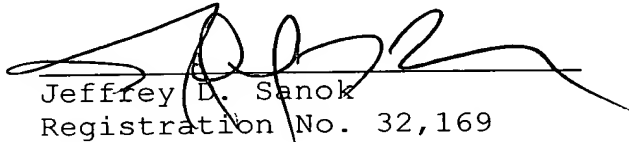
on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #2177/50147).

Respectfully submitted,

September 25, 2001

  
Jeffrey D. Sanok  
Registration No. 32,169

CROWELL & MORING, LLP  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-5116